

Docket No.: 163-588

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
PATENT OPERATIONS

In re Application of: )  
Sergio Noe ) Group Art Unit:  
Serial No.: not known ) Examiner:  
Filed: December 14, 2004 )

For: **PROCESS FOR THE SEPARATION OF THE WATER PRODUCED IN  
THE CATALYTIC OXIDATION OF AROMATIC HYDROCARBONS TO  
POLYCARBOXYLIC AROMATIC ACIDS**

New York, NY 10036  
December 14, 2004

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Kindly amend the above identified application as  
follows: